

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 018827

64

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 USIA-15

EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /071 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER

APPROVED BY NEA/P: MHVAN ORDER

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

NEA/ARN - MR. KORN

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

----- 058174

R 272033Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANAA

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 018827

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USCINCEUR VAIHAIGEN GERMANY

UNCLAS STATE 018827

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL; CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O.11652:NA
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JANUARY 27, 1975:

QUOTE: Q. IN VIEW OF THE DECISION IN ALGIERS BY THE OPEC
NATIONS, DOES THE SECRETARY THINK THAT THE CONSUMING NATIONS
HAVE REACHED A SUFFICIENT DEGREE OF UNITY TO WARRANT A MEET-
ING WITH THE PRODUCER AT THIS TIME?

A. WELL, ON THIS QUESTION OF AN EVENTUAL PRODUCER-CONSUMER
CONFERENCE -- I MEAN, WE ALL KNOW THE SCENARIO THAT HAS BEEN
SET OUT. AND THE NEXT STEP IS TO HAVE A PREPARATORY OR
PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE, PROVIDED THAT THERE IS SUFFICIENT
CONSUMER SOLIDARITY TO WARRANT SUCH A MEETING.

NOW, THE MEETING THAT TOOK PLACE IN ALGIERS, WE WELCOME
THAT, AND WE ARE STUDYING THE COMMUNIQUE NOW. WE ARE CON-
TINUING TO MAKE PROGRESS WITH REGARD TO GAINING CONSUMER
SOLIDARITY. WE HAD THE DECISION HERE IN WASHINGTON ABOUT A
WEEK OR SO AGO, AS WE ALL KNOW, ON THE \$25 BILLION SAFETY

NET. THE QUESTION OF CONSUMER RESTRAINTS -- PROGRESS IS
BEING MADE THERE. THE QUESTION OF ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF
ENERGY IS BEING DISCUSSED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE IEA.
AND IN THAT CONNECTION, IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, THE NEXT
MEETING OF THE IEA IS IN PARIS ON FEBRUARY 5. AND TOM
ENDERS WILL BE GOING.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 018827

SO, PROGRESS IS BEING MADE ON ALL THREE FRONTS.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE FEBRUARY 5 MEETING?

A. WELL, IT IS ANOTHER ONE OF THE PERIODIC MEETINGS OF
THE IEA. THERE WILL BE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH REGARD
TO ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF SUPPLY, CONSUMER RESTRAINTS.

THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES' REPRESENTATIVES REPORT WHAT EACH IS DOING IN THIS REGARD.

IN GENERAL, THOSE ARE THE MAJOR PURPOSES OF IT. BUT IT IS JUST ONE OF A SERIES OF MEETINGS THAT THE IEA HAS HAD.

Q. THE ALGERIA COMMUNIQUE SPOKE OF HOLDING THIS MEETING ON A BROADER SUBJECT THAN ENERGY ALONE, BUT RATHER RAW MATERIALS AND DEVELOPMENT GENERALLY, DRAWING IN THAT WHOLE QUESTION OF THE THIRD WORLD. DOES THE SECRETARY HAVE A VIEW ON THAT?

A. WELL, ON THIS, DISCUSSING THE QUESTION OF COMMODITIES, FOR EXAMPLE, THIS WOULD BE A SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING, IF AND WHEN IT IS HELD. BECAUSE ONE OF THE PURPOSES OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING, AS I RECALL -- ONE WOULD DISCUSS PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENTUAL CONSUMER-PRODUCER CONFERENCE. IT WOULD ALSO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF SUCH AN EVENTUAL CONFERENCE.

Q. WHO WOULD BE AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHO WOULD BE AT THAT. I AM NOT SURE THAT IT IS FULLY DECIDED YET.

Q. WOULD THAT BE BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, OR JUST PRODUCERS, OR WHO?

A. NO, I THINK IT WOULD BE BOTH, AS I RECALL. I WOULD HAVE TO CHECK THE SCENARIO THAT WAS OUTLINED AFTER THE MARTINIQUE COMMUNIQUE. BUT IT IS A PREPARATORY MEETING, AND WE WILL GO TO IT, AS HAS BEEN MADE VERY CLEAR, PROVIDED THAT THERE IS SUFFICIENT CONSUMER SOLIDARITY TO

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 018827

WARRANT IT.

Q. YOU DON'T THINK AT THIS TIME THAT THERE IS YET SUFFICIENT CONSUMER SOLIDARITY?

A. THAT IS BEING WORKED ON RIGHT NOW. A FINAL DECISION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN.

Q. AND WHEN YOU TALK IN YOUR ORIGINAL WORDS ON THIS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE, YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT A PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE.

A. OR PREPARATORY.

Q. YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT A PREPARATORY CONFERENCE OF PRO-

DUCER AND CONSUMER NATIONS?

A. YES, I BELIEVE IT IS. AND THAT IS TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE AGENDA, POSSIBLE PARTICIPANTS AT AN EVENTUAL CONSUMER-PRODUCER CONFERENCE.

Q. YOU DON'T WANT TO GET INTO THE DISCUSSION OF AGENDA IN ANY WAY UNTIL YOU HAVE SOLIDARITY, IS THAT RIGHT?

A. THAT'S RIGHT.

Q. AND IF YOU DON'T HAVE SOLIDARITY, THE U.S. WILL NOT ATTEND.

A. THAT'S CORRECT.

Q. IS THERE ANY DOUBT IN YOUR MIND, BOB, THAT THAT SOLIDARITY WON'T BE REACHED? YOU USED THE PHRASE "IF AND WHEN" A COUPLE OF TIMES.

A. YES, I DID. FRANKLY, THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE, AND IS BEING MADE, AND WILL BE MADE, WE THINK ON THE THREE MAJOR FRONTS THAT I MENTIONED. WE HAVE THE FINANCIAL FACILITY. I HAVE COMMENTED ON THAT. THE QUESTION OF ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF SUPPLY AND CONSUMER RESTRAINT. I THINK EXCELLENT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN THE MANY DISCUS-

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 018827

SIONS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE, AND WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE PLACE IN THE IEA. AND THERE ARE ALSO BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS THAT GO ON, TOO. BUT THERE IS, I THINK, A POSITIVE MOVEMENT HERE.

Q. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS THAT THE SUEZ CANAL IS OPEN TO NAVIGATION, WITHOUT HAVING BEEN ANNOUNCED. CAN YOU TELL US WHETHER IT IS IN FACT OPEN, AND WHETHER SHIPS ARE GOING THROUGH?

A. THERE WAS A REPORT, I THINK, ON THIS, THAT IT WAS -- WHAT -- UNOFFICIALLY OPENED.

Q. CITING ISRAELI SOURCES.

A. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, WE HAVE NOTHING TO SUPPORT THE REPORT THAT THE CANAL IS OPEN, UNOFFICIALLY. BACK I THINK IT WAS LAST OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER, THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT SAID PUBLICLY THAT SEVERAL SMALL SHIPS OF THEIRS WERE CARRYING PILGRIMS TO MECCA, THAT THESE SHIPS HAD USED THE CANAL. BUT WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT THE CANAL IS OPEN TO REGULAR COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC BY HEAVY SHIPS, OR THAT

FOREIGN VESSELS HAVE USED IT.

I MIGHT MENTION, ON BACKGROUN HERE, THAT THOUGH THE CANAL HAS BEEN CLEARED OF MUNITIONS, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT IT STILL HAS TO BE DREDGED TO GET BACK TO THE PRE-1967 CONDITION.

Q. ARE THE MAROONED SHIPS STILL IN BITTER LAKE?

A. I DON'T KNOW. I WILL CHECK THAT FOR YOU.#

Q. IF I MAY FOLLOW UP, DOES THE UNITED STATES HOPE OR EXPECT THE CANAL TO BE REOPENED BEFORE ANOTHER SUBSTANTIVE ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS ON ANOTHER SINAI DISENGAGEMENT?

A. I DO NOT KNOW. I JUST DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT WHAT HAS TO BE DONE, FOR INSTANCE, WIH THIS DREDGING THAT HAS TO TAKE PLACE, WHAT THE TIME TABLE IS THERE, AND WHEN IT CAN PHYSICALLY BE REOPENED TO HEAVY COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC. I
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 018827

DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ON IT. BUT I DON'T WANT TO SPECULATE ON THE QUESTION OF THE REOPENING OF THE CANAL, WIH REGARD TO ANY NEGOTIATIONS THAT MAY BE GOING ON.

Q. YOU MENTIONED THAT THE SECRETARY IS IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE PARTIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST. CAN YOU TELL US WHO THEY ARE?

A. I CAN'T TELL YOU SPECIFICALLY THE NAMES OF THE PEOPLE. BUT EITHER THROUGH OUR EMBASSIES OR THROUGH HIS OWN PEJ-SONAL MESSAGES, HE IS IN CONTACT WITH THE LAADERS ON BOTH SIDES WITH REGARD TO TRYING TO MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

Q. THAT INCLUDES SYRIA?

A. WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q. JORDAN.

A. WE ARE ALWAYS IN TOUCH WITH THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT. YOU CAN ASSUME THAT WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH ALL THE PARTIES.

Q. THERE WAS A STORY RECENTLY THAT PRESIDENT SADAT IN ONE OF HIS INTERVIEWS SAID THAT HE HAD REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD SOON RECOGNIZE THE PLO. DID THE U.S. SO INFORM HIM OF ANY INTENTION ALONG THAT LINE?

A. I AM UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH INTENTION ON THE PART OF OUR

GOVERNMENT, OR THAT ANY SUCH INTENTION WAS PASSED ON TO PRESIDENT SADAT.

Q. IN ASKING ABOUT THE PARTIES WITH WHOM THE SECRETARY IS IN TOUCH REGARDING THE TRIP, I ALSO HAD IN MIND THE SOVIET UNION. DOES IT INCLUDE THE SOVIET UNION?

A. I DON'T KNOW.

Q. CAN WE RULE THAT OUT, OR RULE IT IN, OR WHATEVER?

A. NO, I WOULDN'T RULE IT OUT. BUT I WOULDN'T SPECULATE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 018827

THAT HE NECESSARILY WOULD. I JUST DON'T WANT TO RULE IT OUT. AFTER ALL, BACK IN, I BELIEVE APRIL AND MAY, THE SECRETARY DID SEE FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO TWICE, THREE TIMES AS A MATTER OF FACT.

Q. IS THERE A POSSIBILITY ON THIS NEXT TRIP HE MIGHT MEET WITH GROMYKO IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

A. I HAVE NO IDEA ON THAT. END QUOTE.

FYI - SUBSEQUENT TO THE BRIEFING PRESS WAS INFORMED THE MAROONED SHIPS ARE STILL IN BITTER LAKE. END FYI. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE018827
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MHVAN ORDER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750030-0801
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750117/aaaaaork.tel
Line Count: 307
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 NOV 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 NOV 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <30 DEC 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
TAGS: PFOR, US
To: AMMAN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006